



BRANCH ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

Due: May 30, 2021

Branch:	AAUW Fort Collins Branch		
President:	Barb Slattenow	Date:	May 30, 2021
Branch Theme: The Strongest Fabric Women Supporting Women			
Education & Training <i>Addressing the barriers and implicit biases that hinder advancement of women.</i>			
Goals:	<i>What goals did your branch set this year that are in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? Please prioritize your list and indicate after each goal what the current status is (i.e. completed, % completed, estimated completion date, etc.).</i>		
<p>Education and Training was our 3rd Priority in AAUW's National's Strategic Plan</p> <p>During the year our goals included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contacting a CSU student to present on her journey to become a teacher. 100% 2. Continuing to reach out to Colorado State University Students and to become AAUW E-Student Affiliates. 100% 3. Connecting with program with STEM and Coding elementary students in Poudre School District. 100% 4. STEM 2021 Summer Institute Scholarships for students attending the PSD program. 100% 5. Having an online scholarship application process for 2021-2022 on our website. Scholarships awarded June, 2021. 100% 			
Programs:	<i>Did you identify and/or hold any programs/activates/events that were in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? If yes, please give a brief description of each and the date in which it was held/conducted.</i>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Program by CSU student Edie Steffenhagen on November 12 and how COVID-19 and politics of today has changed the student experience and what students and educators are doing about it. 2. Sending newsletters to students, encouraging them to attend via Zoom our branch meetings/webinars at the state and national levels—September, 2020 to May, 2021, Happy Hours, and to register for Public Policy Day on February 6. 3. Program on April 17 with Laura Bustos, Putnam Elementary Girls STEM and Coding Club for 3rd to 5th grade girls with a goal of increasing enrollment of girls in STEM classes in middle school and high school. Branch will follow up with Laura in the Fall, 2021, for status and needs. 			



4. Our branch awards STEM Scholarships for girls to attend the STEM Summer Institute at PSD in June, 2021.
5. Our branch awards scholarships to 2021 High School Graduates enrolled at Colorado State University and Front Range Community College; Junior/Seniors enrolled at Colorado State University. Recipients are invited to become an AAUW E-Student Affiliates and to become members of national, state and branch.

Economic Security

Ensuring livelihoods for women.

Goals:

What goals did your branch set this year that are in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? Please prioritize your list and indicate after each goal what the current status is (i.e. completed, % completed, estimated completion date, etc.).

Economic Security was our 1st Priority in AAUW's Strategic Plan

1. Mental Health awareness and need for fundraising in our community. 100%
2. Our community in crisis due to the Pandemic and 2020 fires in Larimer County. 100%
3. Our branch reaching out with donations and in volunteering in projects. 100%

Programs:

Did you identify and/or hold any programs/activities/events that were in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? If yes, please give a brief description of each and the date in which it was held/conducted.

1. Members virtually attended the SummitStone Fundraiser on October 28 with a presentation of services offered with the Pandemic and many individuals in crisis. SummitStone and UC Health are partnering to provide services at the new Behavioral Health Facility to be built.
2. United Way made a presentation on March 27 naming the four pillars: Youth and Education, Financial Stability, Community Engagement and Non-Profit Excellence. Discussion included Covid 19 response, childcare scholarships, community impact grants, and Larimer Fire Recovery and volunteer hours of distributing supplies.
3. Branch members were involved in matching fund for donations for the Food Bank for Larimer County; New Socks Drive for pre-school children to high school students; volunteer hours/items for self-care kits for Mental Health First Responders; and The Nappie Project with donations of funds and diapers – September, 2020 to May, 2021 – and other projects to be continued.

Leadership

Closing the gender gap in leadership opportunities.

Goals:

What goals did your branch set this year that are in alignment with this macro area of National's Strategic Plan? Please prioritize your list and indicate after each goal what the current status is (i.e. completed, % completed, estimated completion date, etc.).



Leadership was our 2nd Priority in AAUW’s Strategic Plan

1. Encouraging members to register/attend Virtual Fall Leadership. 100%
2. Inviting legislator at beginning of session to present at branch meeting. 100%
3. Inviting legislator at end of session to present at branch meeting. 100%
4. Invite Larimer County Commissioner to present at branch meeting. 100%
5. Submit one name for NCCWSL. 100%
6. Encourage members to register/attend Public Policy Day. 100%
7. Encourage members to register/attend Annual Business Meeting and Virtual State Conference. 100%

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1. Opportunity for all members to attend the Fall Leadership on September 12.
2. Jeni Arndt, Colorado State Representative spoke at branch meeting on January 23 of her work in community service led to running for a state office. She spoke about issues in the House and lessons on civility.
3. Joann Ginal, Colorado Senator, presented on May 19 with the focus in health care and prescription costs, mental disability services, affordable housing, and assisting businesses to name a few.
4. Kristen Stephens, Larimer County Commissioner, spoke of her priorities focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion on February 20.
5. Leslie Schenk’s name was submitted to represent our branch at 2021 NCCWSL – Leslie was a scholarship recipient, has been an AAUW E-Student Affiliate for four years and a member of our branch.
6. Positive number of members attended Public Policy Day on February 6.
7. Opportunity for members attending via Zoom Annual Business Meeting and Virtual State Convention, May 23 and 24.

Governance & Sustainability

Ensuring the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW well into the future.

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Governance & Sustainability was our 4th Priority in AAUW’s Strategic Plan

1. Sustaining membership with the Pandemic – challenge of members preferring not to use Zoom. Keeping in touch with members that were not on Zoom. 100%



2. Maintaining relationships with Colorado State University and Front Range Community College, Fort Collins with AAUW Partner University / Partner. 100%
3. Encouraging members to take action with AAUW's Two-Minute Activist and contacting legislators in Colorado. 100%

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1. All branch meetings with programs were via Zoom – help was offered to members needing help with Zoom – September, 2020 to May, 2021. Cards, notes, texting, emails to members who were not on Zoom – September, 2020 to May, 2021 - response was positive and all waiting to be in person once again for 2021-2022. Happy Hour was a new Interest Group – reaching out and supporting each other outside of AAUW directed activities. The branch monthly AAUW Book Group held a joint group meeting via Zoom with the Loveland Branch featuring Elizabeth Cobbs, author of The Hello Girls.
2. AAUW Partner University / College fees were paid by Colorado State University and Front Range Community College for 2020-2021. Renewal is important for AAUW awareness as CSU and FRCC plan to be in person for the fall.
3. Reminders to members of being involved with Two-Minute Activist and Colorado legislators September, 2020 to May, 2021.